<u>REMARKS</u>

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated June 15, 2007. Claims 16, 18, 20 and 21 remain in the application, with Claim 19 having been canceled. Claims 16, 20 and 21 are the independent claims. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 16, 18 to 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,980,319 (Ohta) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,757,070 (Lin). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns controlling the printout of image data. According to the invention, image data stored in an information providing apparatus (e.g., a server) is selected and downloaded to a client terminal. The client terminal also receives a recommend printing condition list from the server. The client terminal then acquires printable condition information from a printer driver program corresponding to a connected printer. Utilizing the recommend printing condition list and the acquired printable condition information, the client terminal extracts a printing condition selection list from which a user can the select printing conditions that can be satisfied. The client terminal then generates print data using the printer driver program based on the selected printing condition.

Referring specifically to the claims, Claim 16 is directed to a communication apparatus, that communicates with an information providing apparatus via a network and connects to a printer, comprising a data selection unit constructed to select image data to be printed, which is stored in the information providing apparatus, a download unit constructed to download the image data selected by the data selection unit

from the information providing apparatus, a storage unit constructed to store a printer

driver program corresponding to the connected printer, a reception unit constructed to

receive a recommended printing condition list from the information providing apparatus,

an acquisition unit constructed to acquire printable condition information from the printer

driver program stored in the storage unit, a list extraction unit constructed to extract a

printing condition selection list from the recommended printing condition list received by

the reception unit, on the basis of the printable condition information acquired by the

acquisition unit, a condition selection unit constructed to select a printing condition from

the printing condition selection list extracted by the list extraction unit, and a generation

unit constructed to generate print data from the image data downloaded by the download

unit, on the basis of the printing condition selected by the condition selection unit, by using

the printer driver program.

Claims 20 and 21 are method and computer medium claims, respectively,

that substantially correspond to Claim 16.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to

disclose or to suggest the features of Claims 16, 20 and 21, and in particular, is not seen to

disclose or to suggest at least the features of a communication apparatus receiving a

recommended printing condition list from an information providing apparatus, the

communication apparatus acquiring printable condition information from a printer driver

program corresponding to a printer connected to the communication apparatus, the

communication apparatus extracting a printing condition selection list from the received

recommended printing condition list, on the basis of the acquired printable condition

information, selecting a printing condition from the extracted printing condition selection

list, and generating print data on the basis of the selected printing condition, by using the printer driver program.

Ohta teaches that a printer 12 close to a user's portable communication device is used to print data transmitted by a client 14 to a print server 13. That is, a user who has a wireless telephone receives an email printing notice, the wireless device broadcasts a signal to search for printers in the vicinity of the device. The printers provide the wireless device with characteristics information such as their availability and printing resolution. The user of the portable device can then select an appropriate printer near their vicinity, whereby the print server sends the print job to the selected printer for printout. Thus, Ohta merely teaches that a user of a wireless device can select a printer to process a job upon receiving an email. Accordingly, the object of Ohta is to inform a remote user that a print job is pending (i.e., the email notice) and for the user of the mobile device to then select a printer in their vicinity for processing the job. This is quite different from the invention in which an object is to not necessarily to select an appropriate printer in a vicinity of the device, particularly since the printer of the invention is already connected to the communication apparatus, but rather is to select processing conditions of the print job based on recommended conditions and conditions acquired from a print driver program.

Lin merely discloses a Universal Printing System capable of controlling a plurality of printers and printing a job using a Universal Print Driver. The use of the Universal Print Driver is to eliminate the need to install a plethora of print drivers for each type of printer on the network. In Lin, when a user wants to print, the UPD automatically opens a web browser. The user can then select a printer attached to a server in the web browser and can select various parameters for printing. The various printing options

- 8 -

automatically match the facilities of the selected printer. Thus, while Lin may present available printing conditions for the user to select from, Applicants fail to see any connection between Lin and receiving a recommended printing conditions list from an information providing apparatus. Moreover, Lin is not seen to then acquire printing conditions from a printer driver program corresponding to a printer connected to the client terminal. Rather, the printer in Lin is connected to the server. Further, Applicants fail to seen a connection in extracting a printing condition list from a recommended printing condition list based on printing conditions acquired from the print driver program. Thus, Lin is not seen to teach anything that, when combined with Ohta, would have resulted in the invention.

Applicants also submit that their simply is not motivation to combine the teachings of Ohta and Lin. As discussed above, Ohta is directed to selecting an appropriate printer in a vicinity of a mobile device. Lin, on the other hand, is directed to using a Universal Print Driver for processing a print job to be sent to a print server. According to Lin, "[t]his invention essentially uncouples job submission parameters from the conventional print driver in the client computer. Instead, the individual print drivers that actually control these job submission parameters are installed only on the server computer and communicate with the client computer through a web browser interface. The user is relieved of the burden of installing a multiplicity of print drivers in the conventional way and yet can still reap the full benefits of all printers installed in the network.".

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 16, 20 and 21, as well as the claims dependent therefrom, are believed to be allowable.

No other matters having been raised, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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